The American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research (AEI) is a conservative thin k tank

, founded in 1943. According to the institute its mission is "to defend the principles and improve the institutions of American freedom and democratic capitalism — limited government private enterprise , individual liberty and responsibility, vigilant and effective defense and foreign policies , political accountability , and open <u>de</u>bate 1 AEI is an independent, non-profit organization. It is supported primarily by grants and contributions from foundations

corporations

, and individuals. It is located in

Washington, D.C.

AEI emerged as one of the leading architects of the second <u>Bush administration</u> 's public policy. 

[ 2 ]

More than twenty AEI alumni and visiting scholars and fellows served either in a Bush administration policy post or on one of the government's many panels and commissions.

[ <u>3</u> ]

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Among the prominent former government officials now affiliated with AEI are former House
Speaker
Newt Gingrich
, now an AEI senior fellow; former
United States Deputy Secretary of Defense
Paul Wolfowitz
, now an AEI visiting scholar; former
U.S. ambassador to the U.N.
John Bolton
, now an AEI senior fellow; and former chairman of the
National Endowment for the Humanities
(and wife of former
Vice President
Dick Cheney
)
Lynne Cheney
, a longtime AEI senior fellow.
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